



Have you seen a Pygmy Rattlesnake?

Photo by Kevin Messenger



Kevin Messenger

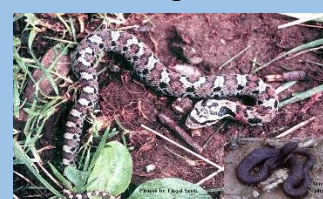
Snakes commonly misidentified as a Pygmy Rattlesnake:

Timber Rattlesnake (Juvenile)

Midland Watersnake

Grey Ratsnake

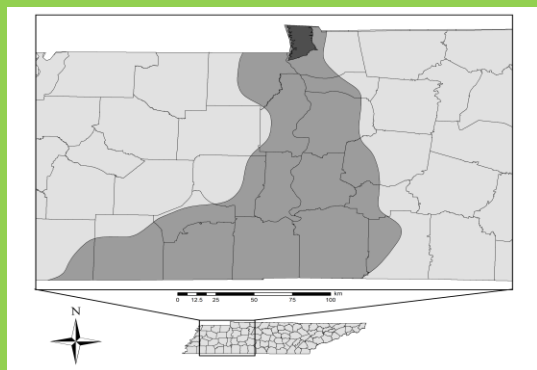
Eastern Hognose snake



Why are we interested in Pygmy Rattlesnakes?

Current research is being conducted by Wildlife Biologists at Tennessee State University to determine the distribution of the Pygmy Rattlesnake in Tennessee. This species is listed as Threatened and our proposed research will help conservation efforts to preserve this species in the state. Pygmy rattlesnakes are predators that are rarely encountered and play important ecological roles, including the control of rodent populations. This species is relatively small and generally reaches 15-20 inches in length.

Current Range of Pygmy Rattlesnakes in Tennessee.



You can assist our research by reporting Pygmy Rattlesnake sightings.

If this species has been encountered, please document the location (GPS coordinates or detailed site description) of where the snake was seen and report it to the Wildlife Biologists listed below. If possible, please take a photograph of the snake and send it via email to the wildlife biologists listed below along with the location data to validate the correct identification of the snake. Previous pygmy rattlesnake sightings (along with photographs) can also be reported with precise location data of that sighting and the date of that event. Note: If the picture was taken with a smart phone (iPhone or Android) with the Location Settings option turned on the picture can be used to validate the location of the snake.

Shawn Snyder- Email: ssnyder1@my.tnstate.edu
Phone: (717) 683-4226

Dr. Bill Sutton- Email: wsutton@tnstate.edu
Phone: (615) 963-7787



Funding for this project is provided by TWRA through State and Tribal Wildlife Grants.